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Filing Date: October 11, 2001
Title: AGRICULTURAL BAGGER WITH UPPER TUNNEL COMPACTION AND CHUTE AGITATION

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The substitute claim set is intended to reflect amendment of previously pending claim 1 and 27, cancellation of claim 36, and addition of new claim 37. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

1. [Amended Once] [An agricultural bagger] The apparatus [for compacting feed into a horizontally deployed bag, the apparatus] of claim 19, further comprising:

[a primary compression mechanism;
an input hopper that receives agricultural feed, the hopper having a sloping wall and a lower end exit chute located to transfer the agricultural feed into the primary compression mechanism;]

a first motor coupled to the sloping wall of the input hopper; and

a first distribution mechanism driven by the first motor and located inside the hopper to move the agricultural feed adjacent to the sloping wall in order to prevent feed bridging before the primary compression mechanism, the distribution mechanism powered by the first motor.

27. [Amended Once] [An] The apparatus [for improving the flow of agricultural feed in an agricultural feed stock bagging machine, the apparatus] of claim 37, further comprising:

[a tunnel for deploying a bag and for receiving compressed feed to extrude into the bag;
a primary compression mechanism fed by a hopper with a sloping wall;]
means for displacing pressure along the sloping wall toward the primary compression mechanism in order for the feed to easily fall through the hopper to the primary compression mechanism.

36. [cancelled]

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37. [New] An apparatus for improving the flow of agricultural feed in an agricultural feed stock bagging machine, the apparatus comprising:

a tunnel for deploying a bag and for receiving compressed feed to extrude into the bag;
a primary compression mechanism fed by a hopper with a sloping wall; and
means for displacing pressure within the tunnel from above the primary compression mechanism to a higher portion of the tunnel interior.